

## Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 CU-02 SS-15 SP-02 L-03 H-02 NSC-05 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 NEA-10 ISO-00

OMB-01 /066 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNESCO:RDFORSTER:GDG

APPROVED BY IO/WBBUFFUM

NEA/IAI:WCLUVERIUS

IO/UNP:POAKLEY

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P 031610Z JUL 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 157453

NESCO

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: AORG, UNESCO

SUBJECT: REPORT OF NEW ISRAELI EXCAVATION PLANS FOR  
JERUSALEM

1. FOLLOWING REPORT CARRIED TODAY BY REUTER TICKER:  
"JERUSALEM, JULY 2, REUTER - ISRAEL HAS UNVEILED  
PLANS TO UNEARTH MORE OF THE WAILING WALL -- THE MOST  
SACRED JEWISH SHRINE -- AND BUILD A PUBLIC PLAZA AROUND IT.  
THE PLAN WOULD TAKE FIVE TO 10 YEARS TO IMPLEMENT AND  
SEEMS LIKELY TO RUN INTO CONTROVERSY. THE WAILING WALL --  
THE REMAINS OF THE WESTERN WALL OF THE SECOND TEMPLE  
DESTROYED BY THE ROMANS IN 70 A.D. -- WAS RECOVERED BY  
ISRAELI TROOPS IN THE 1967 WAR. ISRAEL THEN ANNEXED THE  
EASTERN SECTOR OF THE FORMERLY-DIVIDED CITY AND RESTORED  
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THE AREA AROUND THE WALL. THE MOSLEMS' SACRED AL-AQSA AND

OMAR MOSQUES STAND ON THE OTHER SIDE. MANY CRUMBLING  
HOUSES IN THE OLD ALLEYWAYS AROUND THE WALL WERE DEMOLISHED  
TO MAKE ROOM FOR A PLAZA. THE SHRINE IS VISITED BY JEWS  
FROM THROUGHOUT THE WORLD."

2. FOR TEL AVIV: IN VIEW OF UNESCO PROBLEMS AND IMMINENT  
VISIT TO JERUSALEM OF NEW HIGH-LEVEL UNESCO MISSION  
HEADED BY SWISS HEAD OF CULTURAL SECTOR, BOLLA, DEPT. WOULD  
APPRECIATE RECEIVING ASAP ANY INFO EMBASSY ABLE TO DEVELOP  
REGARDING THIS RATHER SKETCHY REUTER DISPATCH. INGERSOLL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 03 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE157453  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** RDFORSTER:GDG  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750231-0650  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
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**TAGS:** AORG, UNESCO  
**To:** PARIS TEL AVIV  
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